## IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 11-726V Filed: October 23, 2012

AMANDA K. MOMBERG,

Petitioner,

V.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

## **DECISION ON ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS<sup>1</sup>**

## Vowell, Special Master:

This case, brought under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program,<sup>2</sup> was dismissed for insufficient proof on August 13, 2012. On October 22, 2012, the parties filed a stipulation of facts concerning attorneys' fees and costs. The stipulation conveys that after informal discussions with respondent, petitioner requests an amount for her attorney fees and costs to which respondent does not object. Additionally, in compliance with General Order #9, the stipulation notes that petitioner incurred no personal litigation costs.

I find that this petition was brought in good faith and that there existed a reasonable basis for the claim. Therefore, an award for fees and costs is appropriate, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-15(b) and (e)(1). Further, the proposed amount seems

<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I intend to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, § 205, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (codified as amended at 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2006)). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), a party has 14 days to identify and move to delete medical or other information, that satisfies the criteria in 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B). Further, consistent with the rule requirement, a motion for redaction must include a proposed redacted

Further, consistent with the rule requirement, a motion for redaction must include a proposed redacted decision. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within the requirements of that provision, I will delete such material from public access.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The applicable statutory provisions defining the program are found at 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-10 *et seq.* (2006).

reasonable and appropriate. Accordingly, I hereby award the total \$10,449.34<sup>3</sup> in the form of a check payable jointly to petitioner, Amanda Momberg, and petitioner's counsel of record for petitioner's attorney fees and costs.

In the absence of a timely-filed motion for review filed pursuant to Appendix B of the Rules of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the clerk of the court shall enter judgment in accordance herewith.<sup>4</sup>

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s Denise K. Vowell

Denise K. Vowell Special Master

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This amount is intended to cover all legal expenses incurred in this matter. This award encompasses all charges by the attorney against a client, "advanced costs" as well as fees for legal services rendered. Furthermore, 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(e)(3) prevents an attorney from charging or collecting fees (including costs) that would be in addition to the amount awarded herein. See generally Beck v. Sec'y, HHS, 924 F.2d 1029 (Fed. Cir.1991).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Entry of judgment can be expedited by each party's filing of a notice renouncing the right to seek review. See Vaccine Rule 11(a).